Licence fee

3043. SHRI ANIL SHARMA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state the amount of licence fee offered by various bidders, circle-wise, who were technically and commercially declared eligible for the number of circles in December, 1995 and March, 1996 for the proposed licence fee particularly for Tamil Nadu and Karnataka Circles?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN) : The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Revenue licence sharing scheme

3044. SHRI ANIL SHARMA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the revenue licence sharing scheme from licensee for various circles in the country was introduced and what has been the income to Government, circle-wise, from the date of introduction of the scheme and upto the 31st March, 1993; and

(b) whether recovery has been affected from the licensee; if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN): (a) The revenue sharing scheme in respect of cellular and basic service licensees for various circles was introduced with effect from 01-08-1999. Therefore, no income towards revenue sharing accrued to the Government upto 31-03-1993.

(b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

Capacity of Cell One in Karnataka

3045. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) what is the present capacity of Cell One in Karnataka;

(b) how many subscribers, so far, opted for Cell One in the State;

(c) the cities and towns proposed to be covered during the year 2003-04;

(d) whether BSNL has come out with new options for its WLL consumers in Karnataka;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) how many States and Central Government Organisation, so far, have opted for Cell One Mobile in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN): (a) and (b) As on 31-7-2003, Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd. (BSNL) Cell One services in Karnataka has a cellular capacity of 3,07,000 lines with a subscriber base of 2,72,445.

(c) As on date the BSNL's cellular services is already available in 144 cities/towns in the State and around 62 additional cities are planned to be covered during the 2003-04 progressively.

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir. BSNL offers following options to the customers in respect of WLL (Mobile) handsets:

(i) Customer may bring his own handset.

(ii) Purchase of handset from BSNL upon payment of its cost in 25 monthly instalments of Rs. 200/- each.

(iii) Provision of handset by BSNL upon payment of Rs. 20/- p.m. towards Insurance, etc.

(iv) Provision of handset by BSNL upon payment of security deposit (refundable) of Rs. 5000/-.

(f) Two Central and Six State Government organizations have so far opted for Cell One service in the State of Karnataka.

Distribution of new telephone directory

3046. SHRI SURENDRA NATH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state: